

to so to speak a national personality. These pretensions are based upon notions of unity that are derived from past history, and their advancement.

may be attributed to the increasing attention that is paid to historical studies. To corroborate them by evidence of singularity, attempts may be made to resuscitate languages that are actually dead.

So far for the ties between man and man which rest upon the influence of the social instinct. But these are not the only links in human society.

By the selfish, or individualistic, impulses, bonds have been compacted which have drawn men together as by hoops of iron. Many of them have been forged in the smithy of war. Slavery is technically dead; but up to quite modern times it was a vital element in the constitution of society, and from a practical point of view it is still a living institution in some Spanish and Portuguese countries. It is not peculiar to mankind :

some species of ants have slaves, which appear to become greatly attached to their masters and will fight energetically on their behalf. Slaves might be acquired by raiding : in this case their condition generally became that of domestic servitude.

Or, when a country was conquered, the indigenous population might be degraded to a position of helotage, in which they might labour on their fields, but for the conqueror's benefit, and were carefully excluded from political privileges. As time advanced, and their condition

improved. they have claimed freedom, and even political equality. and they have generally made good their claim except in cases where the ruling class has rigidly maintained its vigour and exclusiveness.

The conflict between the patricians and plebeians of Rome is a familiar illustration of this social revolution : and we have an instance nearer home in the history of Ireland.

Since commerce has become a temptation